

Circular Rail Between Hyderabad and Secunderabad

1535. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state that the action taken on a suggestion to start circular Rail between Hyderabad and Secunderabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): For developing a modern inter-model transport system in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad, a study has been sanctioned at the total cost of Rs. 10 lacs. The same is likely to be completed in the current year i.e. 2000-01. Matters regarding sanction and execution of the projects will be decided on receipt of the report.

Rail Service Between India and Bangladesh

1536. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Bangladesh are all set to resume direct rail service between the two countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all formalities in this regard, including signing of a formal agreement, have been completed; and

(d) by when the service is likely to be inaugurated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Following four Railway links were operational between India and Bangladesh.

- Gede (India)-Darsana (Bangladesh)—Broad Gauge
- Singhabad (India)-Rohanpur (Bangladesh)—Broad Gauge
- Radhikapur (India)-Birol (Bangladesh)—Meter Gauge.
- Mahisasan (India)-Shahbazpur (Bangladesh)—Meter Gauge.

A fifth Direct Railway link between Petrapole (India)-Benapole (Bangladesh)-Broad Gauge for goods train services has also become operational recently.

(c) Working Agreement has been signed on 4.7.2000 between the Government of India through Ministry of Railways and the